

OUT AND ABOUT

Welcome news from Rhône-Poulenc

Rhône-Poulenc Environmental Products has re-introduced the popular fungicide Quintozene and announced big price reductions on Spasor - their glyphosate based total herbicide.

Quintozene, a contact fungicide previously marketed under the Bras-Sicol, was originally withdrawn due to problems of supply of the active ingredient. Happily, due to the demand for an alternative fungicide from greenkeepers throughout the UK, Rhône-Poulenc is now able to announce its re-introduction.

Sold in new 5kg plastic packs, Quintozene wettable powder will give reliable control of Fusarium Patch, Red Thread and Dollar Spot and provides a further valuable product for use in the fight against turf disease.

Spasor - Rhône-Poulenc's specialist non-residual herbicide has its price reduced. Containing 36 per cent Glyphosate, Spasor is a foliar-applied translocated herbicide for the total control of annual and perennial weeds, both broad-leaved and grass.

Packed in 1 litre easy measure and 5 litre Tip 'n Pour containers, Spasor now offers an even more economical way to effectively control a wide variety of weeds including aquatic species.

From seed to harvest in 18 weeks

One can hardly accuse David Davies of West Midland Turf of allowing the grass to grow beneath his feet! This is partly because he incorporates a synthetic netting into his newly established seedlings to improve the handling qualities of the young turf.

This new A22 mixture comprises the shortest growing Perennial Ryegrass and Slender Creeping Red Fescue available



A22 turf seeds from BSH gives a strong root system.

on the UK seed market. Lorina Perennial Ryegrass and Logro Slender Creeping Red Fescue, mixed 60% and 35% respectively, plus 5% Highland Browntop Bent, from BSH Ltd.

"The main priorities are quick establishment, a good fibrous root system and a presentable, even textured turf with dark green colour.

The turf must be capable of withstanding the every day use received in public amenity areas and domestic lawns" said Mr Davies.

"We have found that turf grown from the A22 Low Maintenance seeds mixture requires approximately one-third less mowing throughout the growing season in comparison with other dwarf Ryegrass crops. This saves considerable time and money for our company".

"The advantages of the mixture, sown in late June 88, are strong visual colour, a compact, fine-leaved appearance and underneath, an excellent root system. In fact, such is the attractive appearance of the A22 sward, it resembles a fine fescue mixture. Despite the fine leaf, it seems to offer good wear tolerance, having the distinct genetic ability to produce adequate, but very compact leaf growth".

Mulch to insure against drought

After the warmest winter for more than 100 years a dry summer could spell disaster for newly planted shrubs and trees.

One of the more economical options among the many that industry suppliers



will be eager to promote is an early surface mulch to increase and retain moisture content, stabilize ground temperatures, and lengthen the growing season.

"If we get a dry summer, then a surface mulch could turn out to be the cheapest insurance landscapers have ever had", commented Melcourt Industries MD,

John Latter, whose company recently launched Forest Biomulch, a dendromulch now being actively promoted for this purpose for large scale plantings.

"Many of our customers are planning ahead and laying mulches on both new and established sites in an effort to minimize the danger of drought stress and subsequent plant losses", continued Mr Latter, "with the added bonus that with this insurance, one year's premium provides several years of protection".

A wholly organic mix of pine chips, chipped branches, bark, needles, leaves and twigs (see picture), Forest Biomulch is first processed through a mulcher and then matured to eliminate pathogens and toxins. The product's particle sizes range from 1 to 45 m in length, allowing rain water to drain freely yet limiting evaporation because of the protective layer which is formed between the soil and the atmosphere.

With time, the high percentage of organic debris will breakdown into the soil, creating ideal conditions for earthworm activity - and thus improving root aeration and drainage still further.

Since the winter has proved even drier than that of 1975/6, a hot summer really would present serious problems for the professional landscaper. To date, the South of England has been hardest hit, where rainfall levels in counties like Kent and Hampshire were running at less than half the normal rate for the season.

Wetting agent for turf

A major break-through in turf wetting is claimed by the manufacturers of a new product to be launched next month for fine turf management.

Known as Turfex, the new product was tested independently by the Sports Turf Research Institute during 1988 for the alleviation of dry patch. In laboratory tests it increased the rate of infiltration into dry patch affected turf by up to five times that of other wetting agents.

Excellent results were also shown in a field trial at a golf course in the north of England with a severe dry patch problem. The rate of water uptake was almost doubled following repeated applications of Turfex. In the same trial, results with Turfex were way ahead of those with other wetting agents.

Turfex is expected to be particularly effective in fine turf management on golf courses, bowling greens etc. since it provides a cost-effective solution to the problem of dry patch, by enabling water to

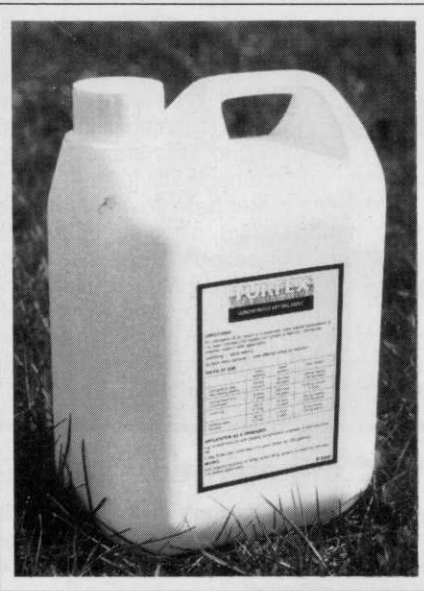
OUT AND ABOUT

get to the roots of the turf and thus restoring healthy growth.

It can also be used for compacted or puddled ground, or for sloping areas where water would otherwise run off. General application enables greater all round benefits to be obtained from much improved penetration of rain or irrigation water. A further benefit is that it provides an effective and long-lasting alternative to switching for dew removal.

Turfex is readily adsorbed onto soil particles and in this way provides a lasting action and a build-up of effectiveness. (The company recommends two applications seven days apart at the start of the growing season followed by monthly applications thereafter until the problem is alleviated.)

The product is mixed in cold water at the rate of ½ litre in 100 litres of water - an



amount sufficient for 500 square metres of turf (an average golf green size) - and dissolves easily with minimal foaming which quickly disappears.

Turfex is said to have no adverse effects on turf. Even at double strength no phytotoxicity problems have been reported and it can be applied by any conventional sprayer.

Despite its greatly enhanced wetting properties Turfex is to be sold at a cost of only £1.25 for a quantity sufficient to treat 100 square metres, making it an extremely cost-effective wetting agent. It is supplied in a concentrated form in 2.5 litre packs.

Turfex is manufactured by the Horticultural Division of Service Chemicals Limited of 17, Lanchester Way, Royal Oak Industrial Estate, Daventry, Northamptonshire NN11 5PH. Telephone (0327) 704444. It is available from specialist turfcare wholesale distributors and the company's selling agent is John McLauchlan Horticulture of 2a Finkle Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 1DA. Telephone (0845) 25585.

South East regional manager for SISIS

SISIS have appointed David Luxford as Regional Manager South East.

Previously David was Sales Manager for Paice & Son for many years. He is a keen cricketer and is married with one son.

He will be responsible for administering all SISIS Sales and Service in the South East of England, liaising with SISIS Distributors T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Limited in certain areas.

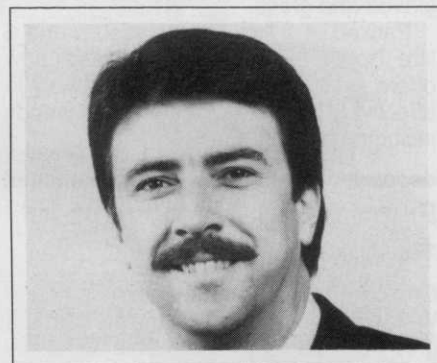


David Luxford.

Addition to Turfland Team

Turfland of Warrington, have recently appointed Rob Burnett to the sales team.

Rob has gained considerable experience in the lawn-care industry in the USA, where he was employed for a number of years by a company involved in the treatment of lawns against disease (specifi-



Rob Burnett.

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The Best of British Turf



OUT AND ABOUT

cally against bugs and other pests), and in fertilisation techniques. On return to the UK he worked for a while in the landscape industry in East Anglia.

After a period of familiarisation with Brouwer machines and Turfland techniques, Rob will principally cover some of the North West area.

Mechanised core collection from Cushman

Greenkeepers can now collect their hollow tine aeration cores mechanically the new Core Harvester attachment for Cushman Turf Truckster vehicles.

Developed by Cushman and distributed in the UK by Huxleys Grass Machinery, the Core Harvester is suitable for mounting to both 3- and 4-wheel Cushman Turf Trucksters from serial number 8720 onwards, fitted with a short dumpbox or longbox with sides and tailgate.

Attached to the nearside of the Cushman Turf Truckster vehicle, the new Core Harvester comprises three principal sections. At the front, a pair of spring-balanced gathering blades, set at a 60 degree angle, glide across the turf channelling the cores into the mouth of a chain and flight elevator.

This lifts the cores from the ground, depositing them onto a rubber-belted cross conveyor which carries the "harvested" cores sideways to the Turf Truckster's dump box.

When the box is full, the operator shuts off drive to the Core Harvester's elevator and conveyor, raises the machine from the ground and drives to the dump site, where the cores are quickly off-loaded



The new Cushman Core Harvester.

from the Truckster's tipping box.

In tests conducted by its manufacturer, the attachment enabled one man to clear aeration cores from a 70000 sq ft (650 sq m) golf green in just 15 minutes, providing substantial savings in both time and effort over manual gathering and collection.

Drive to the Core Harvester's elevator and cross-conveyor is by individual hydraulic motors supplied by the Turf Truckster's internal hydraulic system. The elevator uses a low speed, high torque motor, while the conveyor has a variable speed motor, allowing the operator to increase or reduce its rate of movement to suit operating conditions and the volume of cores being collected.

In addition to the spring-balanced flota-

tion system on the core-gathering blades, the complete attachment is supported in work and maintained parallel to the turf by an adjustable shock absorber and pneumatic tyre positioned beneath the elevator.

The core-gathering blades can be offset to either the left or right of centre to facilitate a circular driving pattern.

Attached by just six bolts, and the connection of two hydraulic hoses, the new Cushman Core Harvester is priced at £1,850, plus fitting and VAT.

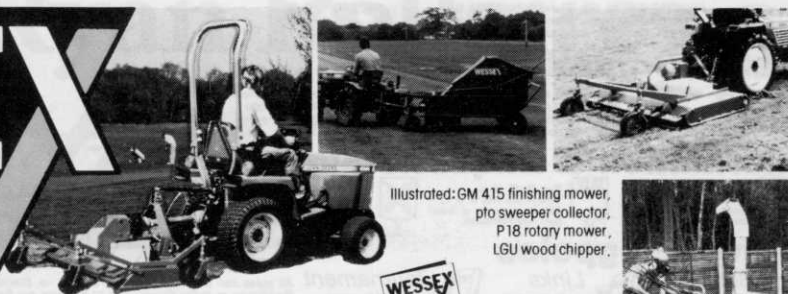
It is available now for demonstration through Huxleys Grass Machinery, The Dean, New Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9BL; Tel: 0962 733222, or by contacting the company's nationwide network of appointed specialist dealers.

WESSEX

Compact Tractor Attachments

Golf Course Machinery

Designed for both compact and full size tractors, Wessex machinery can be found on many of the leading golf courses. Sweepers for grass clippings and leaves, rotary and flail mowers for rough and semi-rough, the GR Pick-up mower for one pass cutting, collecting and scarifying, even wood chippers turning waste timber into chips for pathways.



Illustrated: GM 415 finishing mower, pto sweeper collector, P18 rotary mower, LGU wood chipper.



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The Mole truth

Frank Taylor is a man with a 'hush hush' mission. The task is enormous - but the day of the mole is over. Their cover has been blown and the trap is set. No - this isn't a tale about espionage, but about those furry little 'critters' who can turn a snooker table lawn into a battle field overnight.

For sixty-year old Frank Taylor, of Pattingham, Wolverhampton, is a professional mole-catcher. Made redundant in 1986, Frank set himself up as a mole



catcher with the help of the government's Enterprise Scheme.

Frank's new found, and one could say down to earth career, has rescued a dying country art and his services are much in demand. On one 'under cover' job at Willey Park, near Broseley, Shropshire, he caught 561 moles in two months. Lord Forester had 150 acres of solid mole hills before Frank began, but armed with knee pad, trap and a skill that can catch a mole

in 2½ minutes, the numbers soon dwindled.

"I have trapped moles since I was a boy, usually for my family and friends in the countryside. The use of poisons for controlling moles has always repelled me", said Frank. "I think I have proved that trapping is the only effective method of mole control", he added.

Colorcoat tees off for golf market

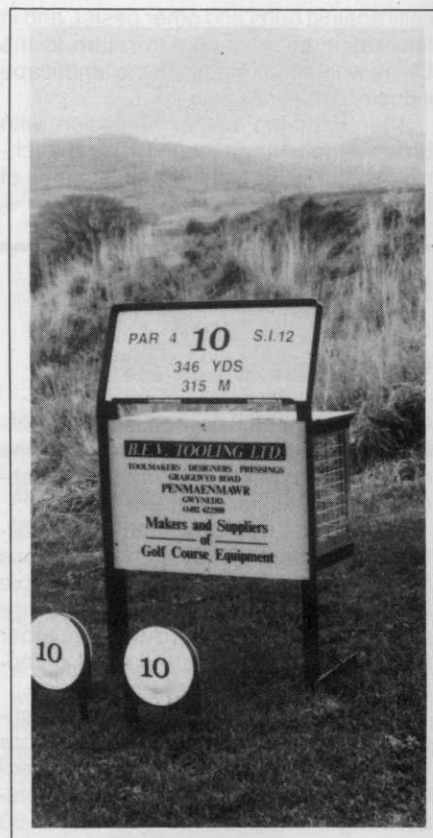
Golf course accessories including fairway signs and tee markers are now being fabricated by BEV Golf Equipment Ltd from Colorcoat HP200 supplied by Color Steels Ltd - major stockists and processors of pre-painted steel.

John Hall, managing director of Color Steels, says that such golf course accessories have traditionally been manufactured from formica or post-painted steel.

"However, it has been found that Colorcoat HP200 has several advantages over these materials. It is very cost competitive, offers exceptionally long life and durability (especially against weather corrosion) and is aesthetically pleasing.

Golf courses depend a great deal on easily recognisable, 'colour coded' signs and markers; Colorcoat HP200 offers total consistency in colour quality and high resistance to fading and weathering".


The new Colorcoat HP200 signs and markers are being offered by BEV Golf Equipment Ltd as complete advertising




Golf markers made Colorcoat HP200.

packages. Advertisers can place their promotional messages on signs and markers, so effectively targeting golf players, while giving clubs and courses the opportunity to upgrade their marking facilities free of charge.


Hole Cups

 The Rider Hole Cup R. & A. Approved Size. The best hole cup on the market today" (Derrick Ganning - The Belfry) **£4.99** each available in cartons of 10.

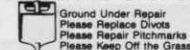
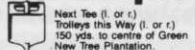

Teeing Ground Area Markers

 High visibility, 6" dia. 3" high. Half Golf Ball design, cast in heavy aluminium, ribbed for added strength. Designed for maximum abuse. **£8.95** each

Traffic Control Stakes

 Aluminium shaft 5/8" dia., 2' 6" high, black or white top complete with hook. A multi-purpose stake when used with chain or rope make instant fencing. As no ground sockets are required they are easily removed and replaced to other areas of G.U.R. etc. **£3.99** each available in packs of 10. 10% discount on 5 packs or more. 60 yards of bulk reel chain £85.00

Information & Etiquette Signs

 Ground Under Repair. Please Replace Divots. Please Repair Pitchmarks. Please Keep Off the Grass.  Next Tee (l. or r.) Trolleys this Way (l. or r.) 150 yds. to centre of Green. New Tree Plantation.  Over 50 Signs available, or your own special sign. Please enquire. Plus Blank for individual message. Exclusive design in heavy duty cast aluminium. **£9.50** each


Swivel Flagpoles

 Slimflex 6" fibreglass **£6.99** each*  Links 6 1/2" fibreglass **£7.99** each*  Tournament 7 1/2" fibreglass **£8.99** each* All poles can be supplied in two colours i.e. Black/White, Red/White or Yellow/Black. Add £1.00 extra per flagpole. All poles complete with bung and Tacit's unique swivel action at no extra cost. Will accept any type of tie-on flag. Quality nylon flags £1.50 each. P & P carriage at cost. * Available in packs of 10.

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